

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2570
TO BE ANSWERED ON 5th August, 2025

Primary Fishermen Cooperative Society

2570. Shri Maddila Gurumoorthy:

Will the Minister of **FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING** be pleased to state:

- a) whether the Government is aware that the Primary Fishermen Cooperative Societies in non-coastal areas, which manage shared resources such as leased ponds and fishing grounds, are facing livelihood challenges;
- b) whether the Government has received any complaints or representations regarding interference, mismanagement, or deviation from the scheme guidelines affecting these societies;
- c) whether there is any central vigilance or monitoring mechanism to ensure that Primary Fishermen Cooperative Societies operate in a fair, transparent, and sustainable manner in accordance with the objectives of the Government schemes;
- d) if so, the details of such a mechanism and the actions taken in recent cases; and
- e) whether the Government will consider establishing a robust redressal system and strict compliance monitoring to safeguard the interests of poor fishermen and their cooperatives, particularly in non-coastal and rural areas?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

(SHRI GEORGE KURIAN)

(a) & (b) The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying under the ongoing Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) actively supports for formation of Fisheries Cooperative Societies across the country including those present in non-coastal and rural areas. The Department of Fisheries has accorded approval for development of existing 2000 fisheries cooperative as Fish Farmers Producers Organisations (FFPOs) and formation of new 195 FFPOs. The Department of Fisheries through National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) has formulated an action plan to support the formation of 12,000 fisheries co-operatives in uncovered panchayats/villages with large water bodies/coastal areas over a period of ten years from the year 2024-25 to 2033-34 in two phases i.e 6000 from 2024-25 to 2028-29 & 6000 from 2028-29 to 2033-34. In addition, the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Saha-Yojana (PM-MKSSY) a sub-scheme of PMMSY envisages to support formalisation and strengthening of 5500 primary fisheries cooperatives with mentoring, capacity building and need based financial support. Further, the Department has not received any complaints or representation regarding interference, mismanagement, or deviation from the scheme guidelines as the cooperative societies are under the purview of Cooperative Societies Act and the ownership of waterbodies are vested to respective State/UTs and accordingly, the complaints are addressed at State/UTs level.

(c)&(d) The Cooperative societies is a state subject under Entry 32 of the State List of Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. As such, the Cooperatives operating in each State or UTs are governed by Cooperative Society Act of that particular state having monitoring mechanism to ensure fair and transparent means to implement the Government schemes.

(e) To safeguard the interests of poor fishermen and their cooperatives in the Country including in non-coastal and rural areas, the Department of Fisheries in collaboration with Ministry of Cooperation periodically conducts review meeting with State/UTs, so as to ensure smooth functioning of cooperative societies and also encourage them to avail support through registering on National Fisheries Digital Platform and National Cooperative Database of Ministry of Cooperation.
